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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

whole thread, the widest woolen stitches taking four threads of the canvas.

Another way of working on Swedish homespun is to lay plain white canvas over the material, and then to work your pattern in cross-stitch, afterwards cutting the canvas and drawing out the threads, leaving the pattern worked on the material. This

dainty pillows a most pleasing feature either in drawing-room or library. The writer's first recollection of this comfortable piece of furniture is in the description, published many years ago, of "Mr. Isaacs's" gorgeous apartments, where "low divans heaped with cushions of deep tinted silk and gold" stood invitingly on every side.

Cot beds with springs (the widest size) are often transformed into divans by lowering them so that, when finished, they shall be eighteen inches, or even less, from the floor.

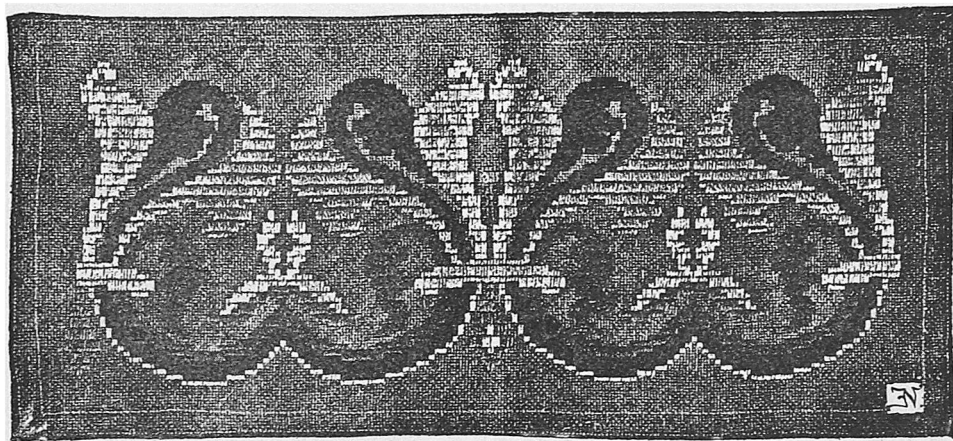


FIG. 2. SWEDISH EMBROIDERY IN WOOL ON JAVA CANVAS.

is very simple, but it resembles Russian work more than Swedish, excepting as far as material and wool are concerned.

This work answers for many things besides cushions; and were our readers to visit Mlle. Nörregard's studio, they would see for themselves how many of her charming designs—for they are all original—can be adapted to portières, friezes, etc., etc.

In Fig. 5 we see a beautiful design. This is an embroidered towel, which could be used as a chair-back, etc. This is embroidered in *reprise* cotton, six or seven threads being used at a time. The stitches are the same as those used in woolen work, and the material being Java linen, homespun.

In the piece before us the pattern is worked in two shades of blue and one shade of red cotton. The small crosses are alternately blue and red between lines of the palest blue, the creatures—for we will not classify them on natural history lines—being in dark blue and red. The whole is extremely handsome. Many things can be done in this work, and it washes most beautifully, which is a great advantage, particularly to all who live in towns.

We should recommend our readers to work this pattern on a bed-spread as a border. It would be also very pretty as both ends of a tea-cloth, so many now being made long and narrow, just to be thrown across a table, although the latter may be round.

THE DIVAN.

BY MARY F. HARMAN.

THERE is always a reason for the general adoption of some particular custom or fashion, and the popularity of the Turkish divan is not in the least



FIG. 3. WORKING UP A SLOPE.

surprising. It is not only a delightful lounging place, but, if artistically draped, forms with its

A strong sofa in this shape, with easy, comfortable springs, can be bought for \$10. This has a covering of blue and white cotton stuff, and may be finished in different ways. If regularly upholstered in brocade or velours, with a plaited valance around the bottom, it is very handsome; or a large Turkish rug may be simply thrown over it, and the pillows piled about to suit the fancy. Bagdad rugs are much used for this purpose, and form, perhaps, the cheapest covering of all. Very good ones sell in the shops for \$8 or \$10, in dark and pleasing colorings, and for durability there is nothing superior to them. The extra length should be gathered up into rosettes at the front corners, very stout thread being necessary to keep them in place.

These divans often come in the form of boxes, with a hinged lid, which are very useful in cramped quarters, and one seen by the writer, which was upholstered in blue denim, cost \$16.

Blue and white Japanese crepe pillows, and a knitted sofa rug, which was dark blue on one side and gray on the other, made a harmonious combination in blues which was quite novel.

An old sofa, which has been relegated to the garret, has been known to take on a new lease of life in this shape. To effect the change, unscrew

A hair mattress will make it most comfortable, but those of moss, or similar material, are often used.

Cover with some dark stuff and drape with a Turkish or Bagdad rug.

The divan roll is a round bolster the length of the divan, and about twenty-seven inches in circumference. This is filled with hair or excelsior, and is covered with velveteen on corduroy, or a richer goods, if liked, to harmonize with the general tone of the furnishings. If the divan is very wide, the roll may be simply laid against the wall at the back (the divan being pulled out a few inches) when it forms a firm support for the other pillows. If, however, the divan is rather narrow, and a number of pillows cannot be used with comfort, attach a shelf eight or nine inches wide and the length of the roll to the back, and lay the bolster on it. Extra width is gained in this way, as well as added comfort.

Or, the shelf may be fastened to the wall on a level with the seat, and the divan pushed up against it. Liberty's silks form, perhaps, the most suitable materials for coverings of pillows, coming as they do in such charming tones of color. But any soft silk or brocade will answer the purpose, care being taken always to have the different coverings harmonize and to avoid violent contrasts. A pale blue china silk, which has a hint of green, edged with a narrower double ruffle of the same, makes a lovely pillow. Another, with white ground and an all-over pattern in old blue, may have rosettes at the corners, and still another may be trimmed around with a thick moss fringe to match the silk.

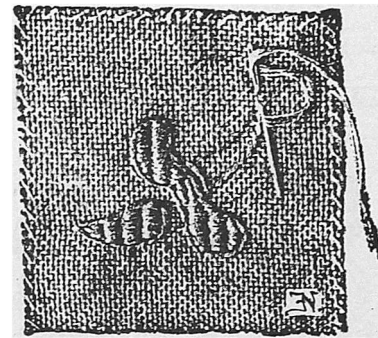


FIG. 4. AN EASY STITCH.



FIG. 5. SWEDISH EMBROIDERY IN COTTON ON LINEN.

the back, see that the springs are in good condition, remove the old cover if it is soiled and tack on some unbleached cotton to make it neat. It is then ready for the drapery; and its chief adornment, the pillows, may be as numerous and beautiful as desired.

An effective pillow is made of old red silk edged with a full three-inch double ruffle of the same, and finished at the centre on both sides with rosettes. To make the rosettes, take a long strip of the goods, three inches wide, double, gather on one edge and draw up closely.